

City Council Regular Meeting
Madison Heights, Michigan
January 26, 2026

A City Council Regular Meeting was held on Monday, January 26, 2026 at 6:30 PM at City Hall
- Council Chambers, 300 W. 13 Mile Rd.

PRESENT

Mayor Corey Haines
Mayor Pro Tem William Mier
Councilwoman Toya Aaron
Councilman Sean Fleming
Councilor Laurie Gerald
Councilor Emily Rohrbach
Councilor Quinn Wright

ALSO PRESENT

City Manager Melissa Marsh
City Attorney Larry Sherman
Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Cheryl Rottmann

Councilor Gerald gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

CM-26-08. Addition to the Agenda.

Motion to include the Historical Commission Work Plan with agenda item #8, Board and Commission 2026 Work Plans.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Seconded by Councilman Fleming.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS:

SEMCOG Grant Presentation - Traffic Calming and Safety Enhancements

The city has been awarded SEMCOG's Transportation Alternatives Grant in the amount of \$180,602 for traffic calming and safety enhancements. City Planner Matt Lonnerstater made a brief presentation of the project scope, followed by comments by SEMCOG Planning Director Kevin Vettraino. Mayor Haines thanked Mr. Vettraino for attending tonight and for their continued support of the city, as well as thanked the elected officials and their representatives that attended the meeting this evening.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Rottmann noted correspondence was received from Mary Harp and that communication was provided to City Council.

CM-26-09 Consent Agenda.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read.

Councilman Fleming requested the Proclamation Recognizing Holocaust Remembrance Day be read by City Manager Marsh.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Seconded by Councilman Fleming.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-10. City Council Special Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2026.

Motion to approve the City Council Special Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2026, as printed.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Seconded by Councilman Fleming.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-11. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2026.

Motion to approve the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2026, as printed.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Seconded by Councilman Fleming.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-12. Proclamation Recognizing International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Motion to adopt the Proclamation Recognizing International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Seconded by Councilman Fleming.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-13. City Manager - Oakland Community Health Network - Mental Health Co-Responder Program Contract.

Motion to approve the contract extension and Amendment Number 2 with the Oakland County Community Health Network for continuation of the Co-Responder Program through September 30, 2026.

City Council discussed the contract extension for the Mental Health Co-Responder program through September 30, 2026, emphasizing its critical role in community safety while addressing concerns regarding long-term financial sustainability. Council members praised the program as an "extremely valuable" resource that provides compassionate support to vulnerable residents and improves outcomes for first responders. The program is currently covered by grant funding from the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. City Manager Marsh stated that if grant funding is not renewed after September 30, 2026, the city's estimated portion would be approximately \$26,000 for the remainder of the city's fiscal year. City Manager Marsh noted that at least one other partner city might withdraw from the program if they are forced to fund it locally due to budget constraints. County Commissioner Ann Erickson-Gault explained that the program was originally intended to be a one-year pilot using ARPA funds, but she is advocating for continued county support to help communities through these fiscal challenges.

Council members sought clarification on how the program functions on a daily basis, specifically asking about team deployment, responder training, and success statistics. City Manager Marsh explained that OCHN acts as the technical expert, managing co-responders for the Sheriff's department and multiple other communities. To address these questions, the Manager committed to providing the Council with quarterly reports to track the program's impact and effectiveness within Madison Heights.

Motion made by Councilor Wright, Seconded by Councilor Rohrbach.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-14. Director of Public Services - John R Construction Contract.

Motion to approve the following Resolution Approving Participation in the Construction Funding Agreement for Contract 25-5600, and authorize Mayor Corey K. Haines and City Clerk Cheryl E. Rottmann to sign and execute on behalf of the City.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, John R. Road from 11 Mile Road to a point north of 12 Mile Road is under the jurisdiction of the City of Madison Heights, is eligible for federal funding, and is in significant need of rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Madison Heights has applied for and received funding for the rehabilitation of this portion of John R. Road through the Oakland County Federal Aid Committee, with construction scheduled for the spring of 2026; and

WHEREAS, this project represents a partnership between the City of Madison Heights and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) as a federally funded MDOT Local Agency Project; and

WHEREAS, MDOT has provided the construction funding agreement for this project, and requires the City to execute same in a timely manner

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council approves participation in the construction funding agreement for Contract 25-5600, and authorizes Mayor Corey K. Haines and City Clerk Cheryl E. Rottmann to sign and execute on behalf of the City.

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Councilman Fleming.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-15. Board and Commission 2026 Workplans.

Motion to approve the Arts Board, Crime Commission, Human Relations and Equity Commission, Environmental Citizens Commission and the Historical Commission 2026 Workplans as submitted.

Motion made by Councilor Wright.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-16. Amendments to FY 2025-26 Budget.

Motion to approve the attached Budget Amendments to the FY 2025-26 Budget and appropriate the necessary funds.

Motion made by Councilman Fleming, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mier.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Fleming announced an upcoming fundraiser for the animal shelter at the Coach Grill on February 3rd, where 10% of proceeds will be donated. He also advocated for lowering the city's snow emergency threshold from four inches to three inches and reminded residents to place waste bins close to the curb for automated collection arms. Additionally, he requested a merge sign for westbound 11 Mile Road to improve traffic safety and shared plans for a Historical Commission trip to the Holocaust Center in West Bloomfield.

Councilor Laurie Gerald's praised the local food pantry for remaining open during extreme cold and recognized the success of the Fire Department's warming shelter, which assisted seven adults over the weekend. She expressed gratitude to residents and donors who provided food, water, and games to support those utilizing the shelter.

Councilor Rohrbach expressed excitement for the "Safe Streets" grant but noted that construction would not begin until 2027. She emphasized that traffic calming requires personal responsibility from drivers, especially in snowy conditions, and requested proactive communication with Wolverine Street residents regarding upcoming road disruptions.

Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Rottmann informed all registered voters that new voter ID cards would be mailed out due to changes in state senate districts and consolidated city precincts. She noted that while precinct numbers and voting locations may have changed, information is available on the city website.

Councilwoman Aaron reminded the community about the "I Love the Library" bookmark contest, which has a submission deadline of January 31st. She also supported the discussion to review the snow emergency threshold and applauded the Department of Public Services (DPS) for keeping the roads clear during the recent storm.

Mayor Pro Tem Mier encouraged residents to participate in winter activities such as the "Hearts in the Parks" program and snowshoeing. He also extended a special congratulations to residents Dave and Beverly Hughes on the occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary.

Councilor Wright commended city staff for their leadership in securing grants and vowed to continue seeking traffic solutions for neighbors on Dartmouth and Parker. Closing with a quote from Martin Luther King Jr., he urged the community to speak up on important issues and to remember to be kind.

City Manager Marsh confirmed she would meet with DPS to review snow emergency processes, noting that weather patterns have changed significantly over the last 15 years. She highlighted progress on the John R rehabilitation project and the city's support for a grant application for Dequindre Road, which is owned by Macomb County. She also offered a special thank you to Firefighter Matt Sirvio for arranging transportation for residents at the warming shelter.

Mayor Haines celebrated officiating his first wedding at City Hall and joined in honoring the 70th anniversary of the Hughes couple. He reminded local businesses that plowing snow into public streets or onto neighboring properties is an ordinance violation. Finally, he addressed the poor condition of Dequindre Road south of 14 Mile, confirming that the city is in contact with Macomb County regarding potential repairs.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business, Mayor Haines adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.